

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

If the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues in any of the claims now pending in the application, the Examiner is urged to telephone Edward M. Fink, Esq. at (732) 563-0440 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Claims 86-136 are presently in the application.

In rejecting the claims of the parent application, the Examiner had taken the position that the primary reference, Anderson et al (US 5,683,722) teaches the use of a heated mold having a cavity comprising a plurality of embodiments including molds typically used in conventional injection molding and dye press molding processes. Additionally it was urged that the mixture could be heated and the starch base binder would be gelated. The Examiner concludes that this concept could be construed as "cooking" as described by Applicant.

Throughout the prosecution of the parent application, Applicant has maintained that with regard to injection molding of plastics, it is not known by those skilled in the art that heating of the mold to a temperature above the temperature of injection would be advantageous. Accordingly, the contention of the Examiner is incorrect. Applicant has never urged that Anderson et al had not disclosed heating of the mold since that is an integral element of their disclosure. However, it is clearly evident that Anderson et al does not disclose injection molding as

known in the art but merely discloses that a mold cavity could conceivably have the form of a conventional injection or dye mold. This clearly does not disclose or teach the concept that injection molding is used. On the contrary, an analysis of the Anderson et al disclosure reveals that there is only a teaching of dye molds and dye molding techniques. Totally absent from the Anderson et al, disclosure is there any disclosure of injection of a mass under pressure into a mold which is already closed when injection is effected, the very essence of injection molding. Accordingly, Anderson et al does not disclose, teach or suggest the concept of injection molding. In fact, the patentees merely disclose a generic suggestion of a proposed shape for a mold.

With regard to the concept of gelating, Applicant clearly does not disclose this as an essential step in the claimed concept. In the instant application, the mass is baked inside the injection mold and clearly is not "cooked" which is an entirely different concept. Gelation of the material indicates that the chains of starch when inserted into the mold are of bowl shape and will extend to more or less straight lines. This means that they will intertwine and, therefore, the viscosity of the product will increase dramatically somewhat akin to glue used for wall papering. By heating in the gelation process, the enhancement in viscosity will be more rapid. And once again, it must be noted that this concept is not a baking process. Accordingly, the conclusion of the Examiner that the patent application alludes to cooking is incorrect. Anderson et al very clearly does not disclose that solidification by cross linkage of the starch molecules under pressure after injection as clearly disclosed by Applicant. In fact,

Anderson et al merely disclose setting of the mass and perhaps crosslinking of additives. This concept is not what is disclosed, taught and claimed by Applicant in the instant application. Anderson et al do not disclose, teach or suggest the concept of injection molding of a mass comprising starch nor the concept of baking in a mold by heating above the baking temperature.

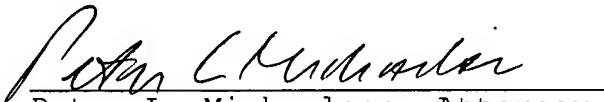
The Examiner has relied upon Reil (US 4,526,314) for disclosing the concept of the use of reinforcement strips, which are not coatings in the sense disclosed by Applicant. Applicant sees no basis for the Examiner's contention regarding Reil but will readily amend the claims to provide that "a liquid coating is applied to the surface and/or over a first coating", so deviating from the concept of Reil.

In light of the foregoing, it is urged that the Examiner recognize that the rejections created are based upon a combination of references which are selected from differing materials. The combination of references proposed clearly does not lead to the teachings described in the instant invention.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 86-136 are most earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on **July 9, 2007** with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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